Mr. Eric Neumeyer Analyst and Planner SE Group 323 W. Main St. Ste. 201 Frisco, CO 80443 11 September 2020

Re: 2020 Noxious Weed Update for the Purgatory Resort Ice Creek Pod Project

Mr. Neumeyer:

On July 28-29, 2020, Rocky Mountain Ecology (RME) conducted general biological surveys at Purgatory Resort (Purgatory) in anticipation of multiple ski area infrastructure improvements that will be implemented during Summer 2021 (Figures 1-2).

Purgatory is planning to install the Ice Creek lift and conduct tree removal to make available four new low-intermediate ability ski trails. In addition, an existing snowmobile route would be partially re-routed to ensure snowmobile use does not conflict with the new ski trails. In total, the project would result in approximately 38 acres of disturbance.

During the biological surveys, searches for noxious weeds were conducted. Two species of weeds designated as noxious by the State of Colorado were found. Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), a Class B noxious weed, was found in multiple patches throughout the project area, but was mainly limited to meadow areas near wetlands or saturated soils. In addition, oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), also a Class B noxious weed, was widely dispersed in low densities throughout all meadow portions of the project area.

The following Project Design Criteria would be implemented to curb the spread of noxious weeds.

Project Phase	Project Design Criteria
General	Noxious Weed Management: Weed control methodologies including equipment cleaning, pretreatment, and post-construction monitoring and treatment.
During Construction	Ensure proper drainage, rip compacted areas, and apply a Forest Service- approved seed mix and organic soil amendments, if necessary, to facilitate revegetation in disturbed areas.
Post Construction	Noxious weed surveys shall occur in areas of disturbance and construction access annually until noxious weed treatment is deemed successful by the Forest Service.
	Reseed all disturbed areas with a Forest Service approved native seed mix. All seed, straw, and other construction materials brought on-site are required to be weed-free. Construction machinery should be steam cleaned prior to entering NFS lands.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact.

Signature(s):

Prepared by: Date: 9/11/2020

Clay P. Bowers, Rocky Mountain Ecology, LLC



